

Safety Lines

Working in summer sun: Steps, tools to prevent heat illness

Millions of U.S. employees are exposed to heat in their workplaces. Although heat-related illness is preventable, thousands of workers become ill each year while working in hot or humid conditions and some cases are fatal. Nearly three out of four fatalities from heat illness happen during the first week of work because new and returning employees have not built a tolerance to the heat gradually, known as “acclimatization.”

Signs and symptoms – take action

A range of heat illnesses can affect anyone, regardless of age or physical condition. Furthermore, exposure to heat can occur in a variety of outdoor and indoor environments, such as: construction; agriculture; bakeries and kitchens with heat-generating appliances; foundries; and warehouses. Below are a few common types of heat illnesses and their signs and symptoms.

- **Heat stroke:** confusion, slurred speech, unconsciousness, seizures, heavy sweating or hot and dry skin, very high body temperature and rapid heart rate
- **Heat exhaustion:** fatigue, irritability, thirst, nausea or vomiting, dizziness or lightheadedness, heavy sweating, elevated body temperature or fast heart rate
- **Heat cramps:** less serious than heat exhaustion or stroke and marked by muscle spasms or pain (usually in legs, arms or trunk)

If heat stroke is suspected based on symptoms, call 911 right away – this is a medical emergency.

For any case of heat illness, cool the employee off by following first-aid recommendations provided on federal OSHA’s “Heat-related illnesses and first aid” webpage (see [osha.gov/heat-exposure/illness-first-aid](https://www.osha.gov/heat-exposure/illness-first-aid)). **Never leave a worker with heat illness alone** and, when in doubt, call 911.

To help the affected worker:

- take them to a cooler area, such as in the shade or in air conditioning;
- immerse them in cold water or an ice bath – the best method to cool the body rapidly;
- remove their outer layers of clothing, especially heavy gear; and
- place ice or cold wet towels on their head, neck, trunk, armpits and groin.



Employer’s responsibility to protect workers

Under the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act, employers are responsible for providing workplaces free of known safety hazards. This includes protecting workers from heat-related hazards. It is the employer’s responsibility to:

- provide workers with water, rest and shade;
- allow new or returning workers to gradually increase workloads and take more frequent breaks during the first week of work (acclimatizing);
- plan for emergencies and train workers about prevention; and
- monitor workers for signs of illness.

For indoor workplaces in Minnesota, employers must also adhere to Minnesota Rules 5205.0110, subpart 2, Indoor ventilation and temperature in places of employment (see <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/5205.0110/#rule.5205.0110.2>).

Creating a heat illness prevention plan

Federal OSHA’s Heat Illness Prevention Campaign (see [osha.gov/heat](https://www.osha.gov/heat)) was designed to educate employers and workers on the dangers of working in the heat and to provide resources for developing a heat illness prevention plan.

Components of the plan may include the following:

- planning and supervision – explaining who will develop and manage the plan;
- protection of new workers by establishing a culture of acclimatization;
- heat hazard recognition, including environmental monitoring; and
- determination of engineering controls, work practices and personal protective equipment (PPE).

Reducing heat stress – control methods

Employers should always follow the “hierarchy of controls” when determining how to eliminate and reduce hazards. Engineering controls should be used first, followed by work practices and then PPE.

Engineering controls

- Air conditioning, increased ventilation or cooling fans
- Reflective shields to redirect radiant heat
- Insulation of hot surfaces and elimination of steam leaks
- Cooled seats or benches and misting fans

Work practices

- Modify work schedules and schedule shorter shifts for unacclimatized workers (gradually increase shift over one to two weeks)
- Follow the “Rule of 20%,” where new employees work only 20% of the normal duration on their first day and then increase work duration by 20% on subsequent days until the worker is performing a normal schedule
- Require mandatory rest breaks in a cooler environment
- Consider scheduling work at cooler times of the day, such as early morning or late afternoon
- Reduce physical demands as much as possible and rotate job functions to minimize worker exertion

PPE

- Insulated suits, reflective clothing and face shields, and cooling neck wraps
- For extreme heat, cooling vests or jackets with reusable ice pack inserts

A comprehensive list of controls is online at [osha.gov/heat-exposure/controls](https://www.osha.gov/heat-exposure/controls).

Other helpful tools, information

Proposed OSHA rulemaking

- Federal OSHA has initiated the rulemaking process for a standard for heat injury and illness prevention in outdoor and indoor work settings.
- View the advance notice of proposed rulemaking and comments from stakeholders at [regulations.gov/document/OSHA-2021-0009-0001](https://www.regulations.gov/document/OSHA-2021-0009-0001).



OSHA-NIOSH Heat Safety Tool app

- This app allows workers and supervisors to calculate the heat index for their worksite.
- It displays a risk level to outdoor workers and has reminders about protective measures.
- The app is available in English and Spanish for Android and iPhone devices (see [osha.gov/heat/heat-app](https://www.osha.gov/heat/heat-app)).

Beat the Heat national contest

- In 2023, federal OSHA sponsored the Beat the Heat contest to raise awareness of the dangers of heat exposure in workplaces.
- This year, OSHA is sponsoring a photo contest challenging stakeholders to capture an image of how to work safely in the heat, to highlight and showcase effective strategies and practices.
- More information about the contest and how to enter is available at [osha.gov/heat/national-heat-contest](https://www.osha.gov/heat/national-heat-contest).

Other resources, links

- The majority of the information provided in this article was obtained from federal OSHA's Heat Illness Prevention Campaign webpage (see [osha.gov/heat](https://www.osha.gov/heat)).
- Additional resources and links are available at [osha.gov/heat-exposure/resources](https://www.osha.gov/heat-exposure/resources).



MNOSHA fatality, serious-injury investigations summaries online

Each month, Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance publishes current, updated summaries of its fatality investigations and serious-injury investigations.

For the federal-fiscal-year that began Oct. 1, 2023, MNOSHA Compliance has investigated 16 fatalities as of July 1.

The information provided about each investigation is:

- the inspection number, date of incident and worksite city;
- the type of business and number of employees;
- a description of the event; and
- the outcome of the MNOSHA Compliance investigation.



The summaries, plus other helpful workplace safety and health information from MNOSHA, are available at dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-resources-all-industries.

Minnesota OSHA conducting enforcement, outreach via first-in-the-nation ergonomics law

Minnesota OSHA's (MNOSHA's) [first-in-the-nation occupational safety and health program](#) established standards to reduce the risk of workplace ergonomic injuries as of Jan. 1.

Since then, MNOSHA has been conducting inspections in the regulated industries, which include warehouse distribution centers and meatpacking sites with 100 or more employees, as well as hospitals, outpatient surgical centers and nursing homes of any size. MNOSHA has also been conducting outreach to the regulated industries to ensure affected employers are aware of their responsibilities under the law. And [matching safety grants of up to \\$10,000 are available](#) to qualifying employers for projects designed to reduce the risk of ergonomic injury to their employees.

Ergonomic workplace injuries

Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) are one of the most prevalent and costly safety and health problems in the workplace today. The cost is not just dollars, but also time and pain. Ergonomics is the science of fitting work conditions and job demands to the capabilities of the work population.

[Minnesota's ergonomics statute](#) focuses on the employer's development and implementation of an ergonomics program that includes an assessment to identify and reduce MSD risk factors in the facility to help prevent MSDs. Employers must also implement a process to solicit employee feedback, conduct employee training and maintain specific records.



Safe patient handling program law

Ergonomic standards are not new in Minnesota. [Minnesota's Safe patient handling program law](#) was passed in 2007. This statute is specific to the ergonomic hazards in health care related to direct patient care and has been enforced for many years. After implementing this law in Minnesota, lost-time workers' compensation claims for patient-handling injuries dropped by [38% over nine years and 55% of nursing homes reduced patient-handling injury claims](#).

Warehouse distribution worker safety

As of Aug. 1, 2023, [Minnesota's warehouse distribution worker safety law](#) established new worker safety requirements for warehouse distribution centers in specific North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes to disclose quotas and work-speed data to certain current and former employees to inform them about their job performance and rights in the workplace.

If a particular worksite or employer is found to have an employee incidence rate at least 30% higher than that year's average for the NAICS codes included in the law, MNOSHA is required to open an investigation.



The law requires communication to employees about each quota they are required to meet, how the work standards for the quota will be measured and any employment consequence for not meeting the quota. The law also allows employees to access work-speed data and prohibits retaliation for seeking the data.

Additionally, covered employers must conduct monthly safety committee meetings until, for two consecutive years, the worksite or the employer does not have an employee incidence rate 30% higher than the average yearly incidence rate for the relevant NAICS code. [More information about these safety requirements is available on MNOSHA's webpages.](#)

About MNOSHA

Minnesota OSHA Compliance enforces regulations through [worksite inspections](#), responds to [employee complaints](#), conducts [accident investigations](#) and provides [education and technical assistance](#).

MNOSHA has developed [webpages](#) that provide materials employers can use to develop an employee training program, answers to frequently asked questions, and additional information regarding ergonomics and other statutes.

Results from federal annual audit of Minnesota OSHA program

In February, federal OSHA performed its Federal Annual Monitoring Evaluation (FAME) audit of Minnesota OSHA's (MNOSHA's) state-plan program.

The federal OSHA fiscal-year 2023 comprehensive report, including Department of Labor and Industry Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach's response, is available at [osha.gov/stateplans/famereport/MN](https://www.osha.gov/stateplans/famereport/MN).

There two areas where Minnesota OSHA did exceptionally well:

- the average lapse-time from opening-conference date to issue date for safety inspections; and
- percentage of penalty retained.

There were no negative findings.

A four-person federal OSHA team reviewed a total of 186 safety, health and whistleblower-protection case files. The safety and health inspection files were randomly selected from closed inspections conducted during the evaluation period (Oct 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023).

The selected case files included:

- 20 fatality inspections;
- 48 programmed and unprogrammed inspections;
- 25 whistleblower investigations; and
- 17 complaint and referral inspections;
- 15 phone or fax complaints and referrals;
- 61 screened and closed whistleblower investigations.



Online training: OSHA recordkeeping basics for health care

Maintaining an accurate OSHA log of recordable work-related injuries and illnesses is an important skill that benefits employers, workers, safety professionals and government agencies. The Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) offers free, introductory-level training seminars about OSHA recordkeeping requirements. This webinar will emphasize elements of OSHA recordkeeping specific to health care.

- **Date, time:** Wednesday, Sept. 18, 1 to 4 p.m.
- **Webinar registration:** Register to attend at events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/8676feef-029f-4006-a2ee-0b6c64e407d0@eb14b046-24c4-4519-8f26-b89c2159828c



MNOSHA updates from the 2024 legislative session

Following the Minnesota legislative session that concluded May 19, 2024, Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) received the following policy and rule changes in a pair of bills written by Minnesota House and Senate committees.

Senate File 3852 included updates to Minnesota Statutes 182.6526, which will become effective Aug. 1, 2024. The updates included technical changes to the statute, involving the definition of an employee, terms concerning investigative data and definitions concerning health care, warehousing and meatpacking facilities.

The bill also introduced requirements for surgical smoke evacuation system policies, which will require a health care employer to implement policies to prevent exposure to surgical smoke by use of a smoke evacuation system during any surgical procedure likely to generate surgical smoke. These requirements become effective Jan. 1, 2025.

House File 5247 directs MNOSHA to conduct rulemaking to lower the blood lead level when workers must be removed from exposure to lead. Also included are changes to the blood lead level when an employee can return to a position with exposure to lead. This rulemaking will impact both general industry and construction employers. This rulemaking process is expected to begin in the near future and information about this proposed rulemaking will be posted to [MNOSHA's rulemaking webpage](#) as updates occur.



Links to the bills

- [Senate File 3852](#) – the updated technical changes are listed in Article 3 of the bill between lines 23.20 and 28.9. The information for surgical smoke begins on line 63.16.
- [House File 5247](#) – the requirement to conduct rulemaking concerning blood lead levels begins on line 179.30 in Article 9 of the bill.

2024/2025 Construction Seminar series dates announced

The Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance free Construction Seminars feature a presentation about a specific construction safety or health topic – with time for questions, answers and input – plus an update from MNOSHA Compliance about what's currently happening regarding investigations.

The seminars are presented every other month, September through May, from 7 to 8:30 a.m. They are currently being offered in person, virtually or both. The in-person location is the MnDOT Training and Conference Center, 1900 W. Cty. Road I, Shoreview, MN.

Mark your calendars now and subscribe to the Construction Seminar email list to be notified about the events.

- **Sept. 17, 2024**
- **Nov. 19, 2024**
- **Jan. 21, 2025**
- **March 18, 2025**
- **May 20, 2025**

For complete information about the seminars or to view past presentations, visit the [MNOSHA Compliance: Construction Seminars](#) webpage.

Hazard notification sent to employers providing aquatic weed removal

In Minnesota, since June 2022, two workplace fatalities have occurred involving employees using self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (scuba) diving equipment while performing aquatic weed removal. As Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance investigates the most recent fatality, involving a young worker, it was determined a hazard notification to employers in this industry could be pivotal in preventing future deaths and injuries.

MNOSHA has notified employers performing this type of work to prevent work-related fatalities and serious injuries across Minnesota. While recreational scuba diving is thought of as a leisurely vacation experience, the reality is that dedicated training and intensive practice are needed to ensure one's personal safety. Most scuba-diving certification organizations cover an umbrella of training and certification routes needed solely for recreational diving.



Organizations, including the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) and the National Association of Underwater Instructors (NAUI), offer multiple levels of instruction – from basic through advanced open water scuba certifications – along with certification tracks that include diver rescue, blended gas, technical and wreck diving, and divemaster certifications. However, the exclusion of the impact of manual work processes on the diver's use of and reliance on scuba equipment is missing from these certifications.

The process of aquatic weed removal includes hazards such as:

- physical exertion from pulling, hauling and carrying weeds and bundles;
- highly variable water conditions, including fluctuating temperatures, visibility, depths and currents; and
- exposures to adjacent structures and equipment, including docks, dams and boat traffic, plus marine life and vegetation.

Employers conducting operations involving aquatic plant removal and disposal are required to adhere to Subpart T Commercial Diving of 29 CFR 1910. These regulations require employers to ensure the following requirements are met.

- 29 CFR 1910.410(a): Each dive team member shall have the experience or training necessary to perform assigned tasks in a safe and healthful manner.
- 29 CFR 1910.410(a)(3): All dive team members shall be trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid (American Red Cross standard course or equivalent).
- 29 CFR 1910.410(C)(1): The employer or an employee designated by the employer shall be at the dive location in charge of all aspects of the diving operation affecting the safety and health of dive team members.
- 29 CFR 1910.420(a) General: The employer shall develop and maintain a safe practices manual that shall be made available at the dive location to each dive team member.

For more information, contact:

- **MNOSHA Compliance**
osha.compliance@state.mn.us
651-284-5050 or 877-470-6742

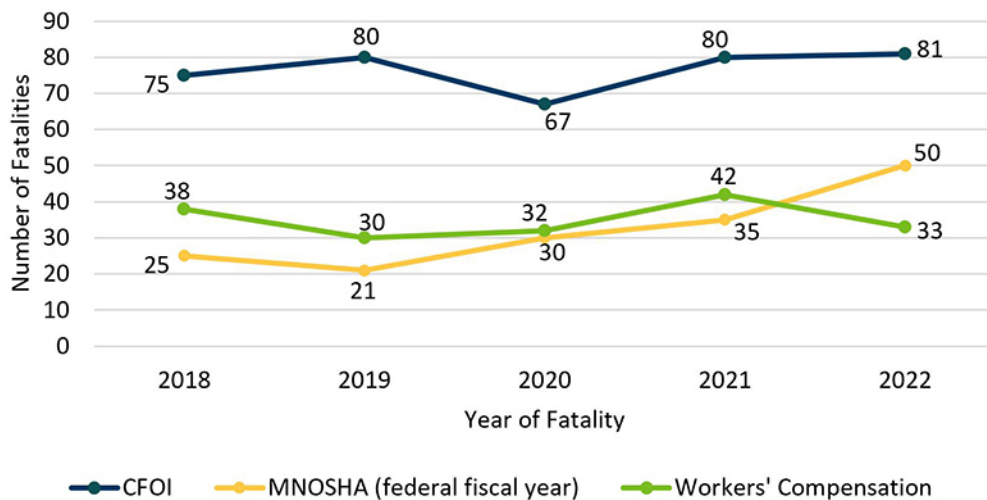
- **MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation**
osha.consultation@state.mn.us
651-284-5060 or 800-657-3776

Three counts of Minnesota’s work-related fatalities

By Clinton Santo, Research and Data Analytics

Three programs at the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) collect data about work-related fatalities: the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI); the Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MNOSHA); and the Minnesota worker’s compensation program. Each program uses different criteria for a fatality to be included in its final count. The results are seen in Figure 1, where the annual fatality totals tabulated by each of these programs are different from the other two.

Figure 1. Number of Minnesota work-related fatalities by program type



DLI collects data for the CFOI in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, part of the U.S. Department of Labor. The CFOI has broad criteria for a fatality to be counted in the data: all fatal work injuries are included as long as the decedent was engaged in work-related activities, regardless of whether the decedent’s job was covered by OSHA or by state workers’ compensation. Fatal work-related illnesses are not included in CFOI data. Minnesota’s CFOI data includes all fatalities that occurred in the calendar year and within Minnesota’s boundaries, including waterways and airspace.

MNOSHA Compliance investigates all work-related fatalities (including illnesses) occurring at worksites under its jurisdiction. MNOSHA covers approximately 98% of workers in the state; notable exceptions include federal government employees, mining employees and self-employed workers, as well as specific incidents, such as railroad incidents, airplane crashes and traffic incidents on public roads. MNOSHA’s fatality investigation totals are published by federal fiscal-year, from Oct. 1 through Sept. 30.

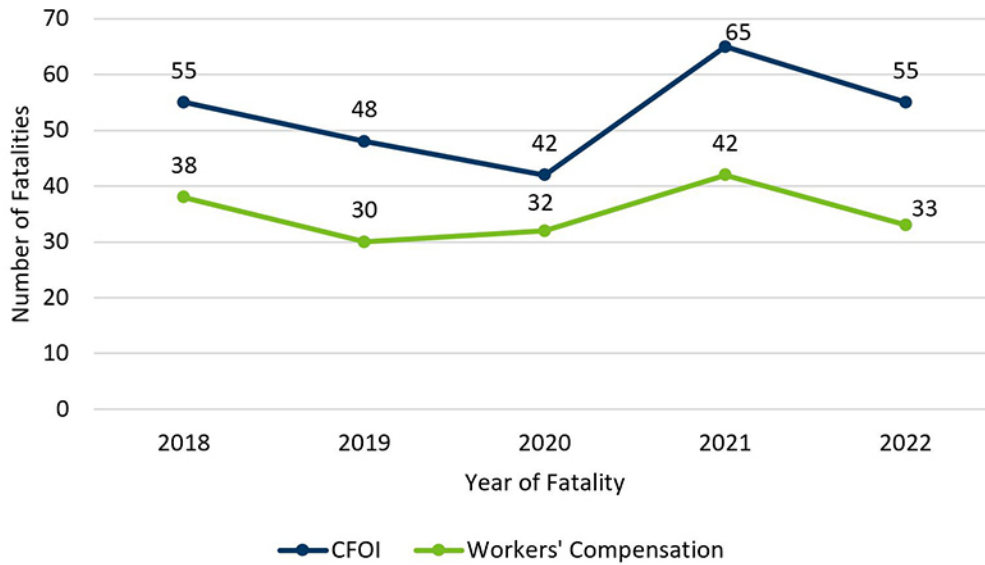
DLI’s Workers’ Compensation Division oversees and administers the workers’ compensation system in Minnesota. The workers’ compensation data in Figure 1 is accepted claims with paid benefits. Counts are based on year of injury, which may not be the same as year of death for all claims. Fatalities from illnesses are included, although these are often not reported if the death occurs many years after the occupational exposure. The workers’ compensation fatality count excludes workers covered by a workers’ compensation policy in another state, but includes Minnesota worker fatalities that occur in another state when the worker is covered by a Minnesota policy. The counts for the most recent years are preliminary numbers; final resolution of workers’ compensation fatality cases are often delayed due to dispute resolution activities.

Three counts, continues ...

Three counts, continued ...

Figure 2 shows CFOI totals only for wage-and-salary employees, compared to workers' compensation fatality totals. Individuals who are self-employed or who are contractors are not covered by workers' compensation unless the entity contracting with that individual elects to purchase insurance or that individual chooses to purchase coverage for themselves.

Figure 2. Comparison of CFOI wage-and-salary worker fatalities with workers' compensation fatality claims



While CFOI offers the most comprehensive data on work-related fatalities in Minnesota, MNOSHA and workers' compensation data can offer valuable insights into the trends of those specific programs. The CFOI results for Minnesota are available at dli.mn.gov/our-areas-service/research-and-statistics/census-fatal-occupational-injuries-cfoi.

Note: 2022 is most recent year of data that covers all three programs. The CFOI fatality count for 2023 will be available in December 2024.

Minnesota's newest MNSTAR Program worksite



RuB, Inc. • Shakopee, Minnesota

Minnesota OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation recently recognized [RuB, Inc.](#), in Shakopee, Minnesota, as a Minnesota Star (MNSTAR) Program worksite.

The MNSTAR Program recognizes companies in which managers and employees work together to develop safety and health management systems that go beyond basic compliance with all applicable OSHA standards, and result in immediate and long-term prevention of job-related injuries and illnesses.

Get complete information on the [MNOSHA WSC: Minnesota Star Program](#) webpage.

MNOSHA reaffirms alliance with Consulate of Mexico, St. Paul

Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Workplace Safety Consultation has reaffirmed its alliance with the Consulate of Mexico, St. Paul on Monday, July 15. Alliances enable organizations committed to workplace safety and health to collaborate with MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation to prevent injuries and illnesses in the workplace.

In 2015, MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation formed its first-ever alliance with the consulate to help ensure protections for vulnerable workers in Minnesota.

- [Learn more about MNOSHA's alliances](#)

At right: Emb. Iván Roberto Sierra Medel, head consul, and Nicole Blissenbach, Department of Labor and Industry commissioner, reaffirm the alliance between the two organizations.



Hardhats versus helmets on the construction worksite

In the past year, Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance and MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation have received several questions about the use of hardhats versus helmets and the actual requirement.

Hardhats have the potential to fall off when an employee is bending over, during a fall or if the employee is struck at angles. A hardhat that has fallen off leaves the head unprotected. Many helmet-style hardhats are designed to take impact from all sides and are equipped with a chinstrap to ensure the wearer's head is always protected.

As stated in 29 CFR 1926 construction regulations 28(a), every employer is responsible for requiring the wearing of appropriate personal protective equipment in all operations where there is an exposure to hazardous conditions or where a specific section indicates the need for using such equipment to reduce hazards to employees. And, as stated in CFR 1926.100(a), employees working in areas where there is a possible danger of head injury from impact, or from falling or flying objects, or from electrical shock and burns shall be protected by protective helmets. This part further states head protection must meet the specifications contained in any of the following consensus standards: ANSI Z89.1-2009; Z89.1-2003; or Z89.1-1997.

MNOSHA Compliance enforces the standards noted above and, at this time, does not require the use of a helmet-style hardhat. MNOSHA Compliance recognizes a helmet-style hardhat can meet the intent of the standard, if it meets the specifications provided in the ANSI standards, and may provide additional protection. However, there is currently no rule requiring the use of helmet-style hardhats.

This does not mean a general contractor or an employer cannot require the use of a helmet-style hardhat. If your employer feels the helmet-style hardhat is going to provide more protection, and it meets the required ANSI specifications, it meets the intent of the standard.

MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation

MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation provides free consultation services upon request to employers to assist them in their safety and health efforts without citations or penalties. Priority is given to small employers, especially those in high-hazard industries. The only employer obligation is a commitment to correct serious hazards in a timely manner. The company's name and file are confidential and not available to MNOSHA Compliance.

Contact MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation at osha.consultation@state.mn.us, 651-284-5060 or 800-657-3776. Visit dli.mn.gov/about-department/our-areas-service/minnesota-osha-workplace-safety-consultation for more information.

Safety grants for ergonomic improvements available now

In 2023, the Department of Labor and Industry received additional one-time funding to administer a [Safety Grant Program specifically designed to help eligible employers](#) – those covered under Minnesota Statutes, section 182.677, Ergonomics – make ergonomic improvements to their worksite. The program provides matching funds of up to \$10,000.

Eligible employers

Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Workplace Safety Consultation will administer the program and funds, available to employers in the following North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes:

- health care facilities – 622110, 622210 or 622310;
- outpatient surgical centers – 621493;
- nursing homes – 623110;
- warehouse distribution centers with 100 or more employees in Minnesota – 493110, 423110 to 423990, 424110 to 424990, 454110 and 492110; and
- meatpacking or poultry processing sites with 100 or more employees in Minnesota – 311611 to 311615, except 311613.

On-site survey required, eligible uses

Designated employers covered by workers' compensation insurance, and those approved as self-insured employers, are eligible to apply for safety and health matching grants to abate ergonomic-related hazards in their workplace. The safety and health hazards must have been identified in an on-site survey conducted by one of the following:

- a MNOSHA Compliance investigator;
- a MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation consultant;
- an in-house employee safety and health committee;
- a workers' compensation underwriter;
- a private safety and health consultant; or
- a person under contract with the Assigned Risk Plan.

The on-site safety and health survey must have resulted in specifically recommended safety and health practices or equipment, training for purchased equipment or tuition reimbursement designed to reduce the risk of musculoskeletal disorders to employees. Costs eligible for program participation are all or part of the cost of: purchasing and installing recommended equipment intended to prevent musculoskeletal disorders; training required to operate recommended equipment; tuition reimbursement related to identify ergonomic-related issues; the cost of operating or maintaining the equipment; and the cost of purchasing or renting real property, if necessary, to meet criteria established by the on-site safety and health survey.

Further information

Whether a grant application is approved, does not diminish, delay or absolve an employer of any obligation to abate hazards as required by law.

Grant applications submitted by the application deadlines – Feb. 15, April 15, June 15, Aug. 15, Oct. 15 and Dec. 15 – will be evaluated and processed so that grant contracts or denial letters will be issued within two months following each application deadline.

Grants are limited to a total maximum match of up to \$10,000 for each project. No grant will be awarded for more than half the amount of the approved project. No state funds will be distributed until all grant documents are signed by all parties and the safety grant project is completed, including payments for all items in the project. Costs incurred before all parties have signed the grant document must not rely on grant approval. Invoices dated prior to a fully executed grant agreement are not eligible for this program.

For more information, contact MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation at dli.grants@state.mn.us, 651-284-5060 or 800-731-7232, or visit [Safety Grant Program – ergonomics](#).

MNOSHA Compliance signs safety, health partnerships

Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance recently signed five Level 3 Cooperative Compliance Partnerships. Level 3 is the peak level of these compliance partnerships, with applicants striving to be an industry leader with very comprehensive safety and health programs.

All five partnerships were signed under the Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) Minnesota initiative between MNOSHA Compliance and Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Minnesota.

The worksites recognized were:

- **Benike Construction** – Kellogg Middle School in Rochester, Minnesota;
- **Ryan Companies US, Inc.** – Cardinal in Duluth, Minnesota;
- **VEIT** – Gary Lead Service Replacement in Duluth, Minnesota;
- **VEIT** – Lowry Avenue Reconstruction in Minneapolis; and
- **VEIT** – Medicine Lake Street Reconstruction in Medicine Lake, Minnesota.



The partnerships acknowledge the importance of providing a safe, healthful work environment in construction and seek a working relationship that creates mutual trust and respect among all parties – including project owners and construction workers – involved in the construction process.

View complete information on the [MNOSHA Compliance: Partnership programs](#) webpage.



VEIT • Gary Lead Service Replacement • Duluth, Minnesota



Benike Construction • Kellogg Middle School • Rochester, Minnesota



Ryan Companies US, Inc. • Cardinal • Duluth, Minnesota



VEIT • Lowry Avenue Reconstruction • Minneapolis



VEIT • Medicine Lake Street Reconstruction • Medicine Lake, Minnesota

Translated materials, webpages, Language Line available via DLI website

The Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) posts its available translated materials online at dli.mn.gov/translations. It has documents available in Chinese, Hmong, Karen, Somali and Spanish. A few other documents throughout the website are available in additional languages.

Also, the DLI website now provides Google Translate near the upper left corner of all webpages on its site, allowing visitors to choose the language for the website text.

In addition, DLI has access to Language Line, a free language translation phone service for limited-English speakers. If DLI help is needed, view the contact information at dli.mn.gov/about-department/about-dli/contact-us, call and a DLI employees will get in touch with an interpreter in the needed language.

Minnesota OSHA's calendar of events*

September 2024

Sept. 6 **Occupational Safety and Health Review Board**
dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/occupational-safety-and-health-review-board

Sept. 17 **Construction Seminar: Topic to be determined**
dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-construction-seminars

November 2024

Nov. 19 **Construction Seminar: Topic to be determined**
dli.mn.gov/business/workplace-safety-and-health/mnosha-compliance-construction-seminars

December 2024

Dec. 6 **Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council**
dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/occupational-safety-and-health-advisory-council

Dec. 6 **Occupational Safety and Health Review Board**
dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/occupational-safety-and-health-review-board

****All dates subject to change.***

See more at dli.mn.gov/about-department/about-dli/events-minnesota-osha

Free on-site safety and health consultations available

Minnesota OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation offers free consultation services, where employers can find out about potential hazards at their worksites, improve safety management systems and apply for grants to abate safety standards.

The program targets small, high-hazard businesses. It is separate from Minnesota OSHA Compliance inspection activities and no citations are issued as part of a consultation visit.

Learn more and request a consultation

Web: dli.mn.gov • Email: osha.consultation@state.mn.us • Phone: 651-284-5060 or 800-657-3776

